



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-3000

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

MAY 28 2019

Mr. Austin R. Evers
Executive Director
American Oversight
1030 15th Street NW
Suite B255
Washington, DC 20005

RE: Freedom of Information Act Request
FOIA Control No.: 18-FI-HQ-00996
Civil Action Number: 18-cv-793

Dear Mr. Evers:

This letter is the fourth interim response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated March 1, 2018. Your request was received on March 2, 2018, and you asked for all Department of Housing and Urban Development records since January 20, 2017, reflecting communications (including but not limited to emails, email attachments, text messages, chat or Slack messages, telephone call logs, calendar invitations/entries, meeting notices, meeting agendas, informational material, draft legislation, talking points, any handwritten or electronic notes taken during any responsive communications, summaries of any responsive communications, or other materials) between (a) Secretary Benjamin Carson; his chief of staff; or any political appointees or career SES employees in the Office of the Secretary or the Office of Public Affairs and (b) Armstrong Williams, any employee or representative of Armstrong Williams Productions, LLC (AWP) (@armstrongwilliams.com), Shermichael Singleton, or any employee or representative of Howard Stirk Holdings or HSH Media (@hsh.media), or any employee or representative of Graham Williams Group.

“Political appointee” is understood as any person who is a Presidential Appointee with Senate Confirmation (PAS), a Presidential Appointee (PA), a Non-career Senior Executive Service (SES) member, any Schedule C employees, or any persons hired under Temporary Non-career SES Appointments, Limited Term SES Appointments, or Temporary Transitional Schedule C Appointments.

HUD and American Oversight agreed to narrow the list of potential custodians for cell phone call logs to nine employees. For this interim release, the Department conducted a review of available cell phone call logs for two custodians. All available call logs (January 20, 2017, through November 30, 2017) for these employees (Mason Alexander and Raphael “Raffi” Williams) were manually reviewed to identify numbers matching those previously provided. No responsive cell phone calls were identified for either employee during this timeframe.

Please be advised that the review of records responsive to your request is ongoing. Further interim responses may be provided to you as this process continues. At the completion of this review, a final response letter will be provided.

For your information, your FOIA request, including your identity and any information made available, is releasable to the public under subsequent FOIA requests. In responding to these requests, the Department does not release personal information, such as home address, telephone number, or Social Security number, all of which are protected from disclosure under FOIA Exemption 6.

If you have questions regarding your request, please contact Assistant United States Attorney Paul Cirino at (202) 252-2529. Thank you for your interest in the Department's programs and policies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "ASR".

for Deborah R. Snowden
Deputy Chief FOIA Officer
FOIA Branch
Office of the Executive Secretariat



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JUL 30 2019

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Executive Director
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1030 15th Street NW
Suite B255
Washington, DC 20005

RE: Freedom of Information Act Request
FOIA Control No.: 18-FI-HQ-00996
Civil Action Number: 18-cv-793

Dear Mr. Evers:

This letter is the final response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated March 1, 2018. Your request was received on March 2, 2018, and you asked for all Department of Housing and Urban Development records since January 20, 2017, reflecting communications (including but not limited to emails, email attachments, text messages, chat or Slack messages, telephone call logs, calendar invitations/entries, meeting notices, meeting agendas, informational material, draft legislation, talking points, any handwritten or electronic notes taken during any responsive communications, summaries of any responsive communications, or other materials) between (a) Secretary Benjamin Carson; his chief of staff; or any political appointees or career SES employees in the Office of the Secretary or the Office of Public Affairs and (b) Armstrong Williams, any employee or representative of Armstrong Williams Productions, LLC (AWP) (@armstrongwilliams.com), Shermichael Singleton, or any employee or representative of Howard Stirk Holdings or HSH Media (@hsh.media), or any employee or representative of Graham Williams Group.

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Available cell phone call logs were manually reviewed to identify numbers matching those previously provided. No responsive cell phone calls, incoming or outgoing, were identified. Additionally, searches for handwritten notes, in both the Office of the Secretary and the Office of Public Affairs, failed to locate any records responsive to your request. Previous interim releases covered the Department’s review of email, text message, and landline phone call records.

For your information, your FOIA request, including your identity and any information made available, is releasable to the public under subsequent FOIA requests. In responding to these requests, the Department does not release personal information, such as home address, telephone number, or Social Security number, all of which are protected from disclosure under FOIA Exemption 6.

If you have questions regarding your request, please contact Assistant United States Attorney Paul Cirino at (202) 252-2529.

Sincerely,



Deborah R. Snowden
Deputy Chief FOIA Officer
FOIA Branch
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